

A U.S. Department of State Network

MIDDLE EAST NORTH AFRICA

S T U D E N T M O B I L I T Y FACTS AND FIGURES





Algeria



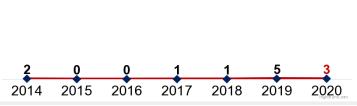






Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Algeria



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	45.7%	100	-11.5%
Graduate	37%	81	1.3%
Non-Degree	2.3%	5	-54.5%
OPT	15.1%	33	-5.7%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	21.83%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	1.52%
Master's Colleges and Universities	15.23%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	59.90%
Special Focus Institutions	1.52%
Public Institutions	75.13%
Private Institutions	24.87%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -8.37%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -40.00%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

New York
California
Texas
Massachusetts
North Dakota

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

43,576,691

Population Aged 15-24

13.93%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -69.23% J -68.48% M -40%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- In 2021, Sidi Abdellah University was the first Algerian university to adopt English language in all its systems.
- Undergraduate and graduate education in Algeria is universally free for all students. The government determines students' undergraduate programs based on national test performance.
- Algeria and France share significant historical, linguistic, and sociocultural ties. These ties influence the education system at all levels, including adopting France's LMD system. Amid diplomatic tensions between Algeria and France in 2021, France has tightened visa procedures for Algerians, which has led many Algerian students to show greater interest in Canada, the United States, or the Gulf countries.
- In 2020 and 2021, the Baccalaureate average was lowered to 9/20, instead of 10/20, to help mitigate the negative impact of the non-traditional school circumstances during the pandemic. This created controversy among students and university faculty, because of the resulting increase in first year students admitted to university.



Algeria





- Pre-high school (# of years): 9 years
- High school (# of years): 3 years
- Academic year calendar: September-June
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: November-February

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic, French for French modules or in private secondary French high schools; English for English modules
- Years of mandatory English courses: 3 years
- Grading system and interpretation: Grading system on a scale of 20 points
- Subjects required: Science, humanities, technology, mathematics, management
- Graduation requirements: Depending on field of study, the average number of required courses is 10
- Name of school-leaving exams: Examen de Fin d'Etudes Primaires (End of Primary Studies Exam), Brevet d'Enseignement Moyen (BEM), Baccalaureate
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: All institutions, either private or public, are state controlled. Private institutions are required to get a ministry accreditation to be able to start business.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: TOEFL, IELTS, SAT
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL: Reading: 18, Listening: 21, Speaking: 21, Writing: 20, Total: 80

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 3 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic, French, and English (especially English majors and some scientific fields like INELEC)
- Years of required English instruction in universities: None
- Grading system and interpretation: Algerian Score U.S. Grade

16 – 20	Α
15	B+
14	В
12 – 13	С
11 – 11.9	C -
10 – 10.9	D
0 - 9.9	F

- Degrees offered: Bachelor's, master's, and doctorate
- Top fields of study/majors: Humanities, Engineering
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability: GRE
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2021): GRE: V 146.3; Q 153.7; W 3.1
- **Study Abroad:** The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary-level students from Algeria go to France (24,094), Malaysia (519), Canada (513), United Kingdom (454) and UAE (289). The United States is ranked tenth. http://www.uis.unesco.org

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

Website: http://www.mesrs.dz

Ministry of National Education Telephone: +213-21-60-67-57 Email: education@men.dz

Website: http://www.education.gov.dz





Algeria





EducationUSA advising centers in at the U.S. Embassy Algiers and World Learning Algeria

Email: Algiers@educationusa.org

EducationUSA Algeria (U.S. Embassy)

05 Chemin Cheikh Bachir El Ibrahim El Biar, Algiers, Algeria Telephone: +213 770 08 2000, ext. 2162

Center Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-embassy-algiers

EducationUSA at World Learning Algeria

72 Campagne Semmar, Birkhadem, Algiers, Algeria, 16330 Telephone: +213 23 597 730

Website: http://algeria.worldlearning.org/



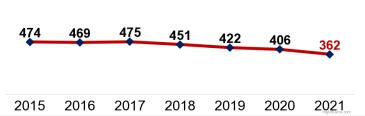


Bahrain



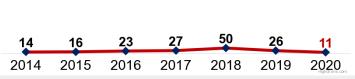






Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Bahrain



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	61.9%	224	-19.7%
Graduate	25.1%	91	16.7%
Non-Degree	3%	11	10.0%
OPT	9.9%	36	-7.7%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	6.73%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	2.14%
Master's Colleges and Universities	20.80%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	67.89%
Special Focus Institutions	2.45%
Public Institutions	52.91%
Private Institutions	47.09%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -10.8%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -57.7%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

Massachusetts California Texas Florida New York

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

1,526,929

Population Aged 15-24

15.16%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -52.68% J -53.85% M 133.33%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 - Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- The Crown Prince International Scholarship Program (CPISP) sends ten students per year to pursue their undergraduate studies abroad. Most students choose to study in the United States. Upon completing their undergraduate degree, the program extends scholarships to CPISP graduates for master's-level study. The website lists all the universities where previous scholars have studied.
- Most Bahraini students in the United States graduate from private secondary schools; high school counselors strongly support advising services and regularly welcome U.S. university representatives for campus visits.
- Local Bahraini universities continue to expand their university partnerships with U.S. universities by offering U.S.-accredited degree programs, short courses, certificates, and student exchange.
- Bahraini students are primarily interested in business and engineering programs. Bahrain has seen increased interest in STEM fields, especially in urban planning and sustainability.





Bahrain





- Pre-high school (# of years): 9
- High school (# of years): 3
- Academic year calendar: September to May/June
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: October to November and January to April. Bahrain does not have an official government college fair; however, U.S. university tours are popular. Private school spring holidays are either the last week of March or the first week of April. Private school winter breaks are mid-December to the first week of January. Islamic holidays are not fixed. Take into consideration school breaks and holiday schedules as follows:
 - Labor Day May 1, 2022
 - o Eid Al Fitr May 1-3, 2022
 - o Eid Al Adha July 9-11, 2022
 - o Ashura August 6-8, 2022
 - o Prophet's Birthday October 7-8, 2022
 - o Bahrain National Day December 18, 2022

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic and English
- Years of mandatory English courses: Minimum of 9 years of English courses
- Grading system and interpretation: Out of 100% or a 4-point GPA system
- Subjects required: Varies, depending on track and curriculum
- Graduation requirements: 12 years of school must be completed
- Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion: Tawjihiyah, American Diploma, IB, IGCSE, A-Level
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Ministry of Education
- Other credentials: Ministry of Education
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations: TOEFL, SAT, IELTS.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2019): TOEFL iBT: 91 (Reading: 21, Listening: 24, Speaking: 24, Writing: 22, Total: 91)

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 4 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Mostly taught in English
- Years of required English instruction in universities: Varies, depending on the field of study
- Grading system and interpretation: Out of 100% or a 4-point GPA system
- Degrees offered: Associate diplomas, bachelors, masters, and PhDs
- Top fields of study/majors: Business, engineering, computer science
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country: TOEFL, GRE, GMAT
- Standardized Test Mean Scores: TOEFL iBT (Reading: 21, Listening: 24, Speaking: 24, Writing: 22, Total: 91)
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores: GRE: V 144.2, Q 149.4, W 3.5
- Education during COVID-19: Education institutions in Bahrain facilitate and implement distance learning classes for students who wish to continue learning from home. Distance education is implemented through various platforms to ensure that students get the best education during the pandemic.
- Study Abroad: The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary-level students from Bahrain goes to the United Kingdom (1,537), Jordan (584), the United States (468), India (450), and Qatar (285). The United States ranks third.





Bahrain





Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Embassy of the Kingdom of Bahrain in Washington, D.C. http://www.bahrainembassy.org
- Crown Prince's International Scholarship Program (CPISP) http://www.cpisp.bh
- Education and Training Quality Authority (BQA) http://www.bga.gov.bh

The EducationUSA office in Bahrain is located at the U.S. Embassy, Manama.

EducationUSA Bahrain

Embassy of the United States, Manama Public Affairs Section, Education Advising Road No. 3119, Zinj Manama, Bahrain

Phone: +973-1-724-2700

Email: Manama@educationusa.org

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-embassy-bahrain

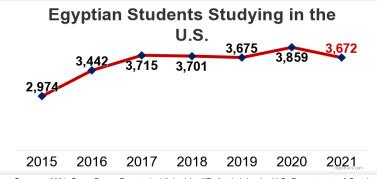




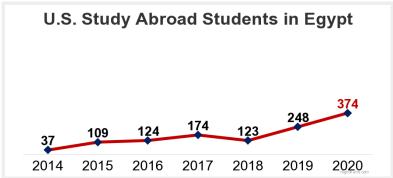
Egypt







Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	36.3%	1333	-12.6%
Graduate	46.7%	1714	6.1%
Non-Degree	1.7%	64	-60%
OPT	15.3%	561	.4%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	6.42%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	3.57%
Master's Colleges and Universities	9.36%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	78.56%
Special Focus Institutions	2.09%
Public Institutions	73.69%
Private Institutions	26.31%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -4.85%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 **50.81%**

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

California
New York
Florida
Texas
Massachusetts

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

106,437,241

Population Aged 15-24

18.01%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -67.32% J -64.25% M -67.39%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- Egypt is the fourth largest sender of students to the United States from the Middle East and North Africa, after Saudi Arabia, Iran, and Kuwait.
- STEM fields remain popular for Egyptian students, as well as medicine and business studies. Artificial intelligence is a field with growing interest.
- The Egyptian education system is looking at including an arts component in its STEM curriculum design.
 The aim is to provide more options for students interested in such fields, to have access to similar opportunities available for STEM students.
- Following a successful social media campaign at the end of 2021, EducationUSA Egypt's Facebook page followers increased by over 23,266 to reach 218,414 total followers. Facebook continues to be a popular tool for peer learning and promoting U.S. educational opportunities and events.
- The EducationUSA Egypt Instagram account was created in May 2019, reaching 3,000 followers and receiving 4,979 views on a series of IGTV videos featuring U.S. alumni and current students sharing their U.S. experiences.





Egypt





Pre-high school (# of years): 9 years
High school (# of years): 3 years

• Academic year calendar: September-June

Mid Year Exams: January

Finals: June-July

Orthodox Christmas Day: January 7, 2022

National Police Day/January Revolution Day: January 25, 2022

Easter/Sinai Liberation Day: April 25, 2022

Labor Day: May 1, 2022 Eid al-Fitr: May 2-5, 2022 June 30 Revolution

Eid el-Adha: July 9-13, 2022 Revolution Day: July 23, 2022 Islamic New Year: July 29, 2022 Armed Forces Day: October 6, 2022

The Prophet Muhammad's Birthday: October 7, 2022

Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: October and end-February through March

Secondary Education (high school)

• Language of instruction: Arabic

Years of mandatory English courses: 3 years

Grading system and interpretation:

75 - 100: Distinguished, Excellent, Very Good

65 - 74: Good 50 - 64: Pass 0 - 49: Poor

- **Subjects required:** Arabic, philosophy, English, religion, history, geography, mathematics, physical science, natural science, physical education, music, art, and third foreign language (French for most high school students)
- Graduation requirements: Passing a school leaving exam, Thanawaya a' Amma (General Secondary Education Certificate)
- Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion: Thanawaya a' Amma
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Ministry of Education
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: IELTS, TOEFL iBT, ACT, AP
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL: Reading: 19, Listening: 21, Speaking: 21, Writing: 20, Total: 82

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 4-5 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic
- Years of required English instruction in universities: 4 years
- Grading system and interpretation: Same as secondary school grading system
- Degrees offered: Bachelor's, master's, doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Pharmacy, medicine, engineering, architecture, computer science, artificial intelligence, media, business, commerce, law, education, arts and agriculture
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability: GRE, GMAT, LSAT, USMLE
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): GRE: V 147.9, Q 152.0, W 3.3
- Study Abroad: The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports the global flow of tertiary-level students from Egypt go to Saudi Arabia (4,080), Germany (3,993), United States (3,616), Turkey (2,910) (www.uis.unesco.org). The United States is ranked third. http://www.uis.unesco.org)





Egypt





Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Ministry of Education

Website: http://portal.moe.gov.eg/eng/Pages/default.aspx

Supreme Council of Universities Website: http://www.scu.eun.eg

AMIDEAST Egypt

Website: http://www.amideast.org/egypt

EducationUSA advising centers in Egypt:

Cairo: 38 Mohy ElDin Abo Elezz, Duqqi, Giza, Egypt.

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/amideast-cairo

Email: cairo@educationusa.org

Alexandria: 3 Pharaana St. Azarita, Alexandria, Egypt.

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/amideast-alexandria

Email: alexandria@educationusa.org

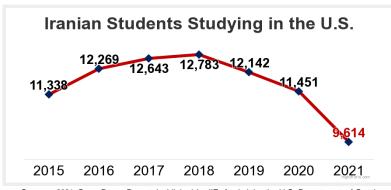




Iran

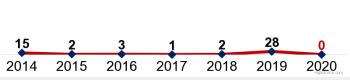






Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Iran



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	5.1%	494	-19.3%
Graduate	75.2%	7225	-15.2%
Non-Degree	0.9%	84	-22.2%
OPT	18.8%	1811	-18.2%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	1.37%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	0.44%
Master's Colleges and Universities	2.62%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	94.63%
Special Focus Institutions	0.94%
Public Institutions	81.03%
Private Institutions	18.97%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -16.0%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 100.0%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

85,888,910

Population Aged 15-24

13.36%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California
Texas
New York
Massachusetts
Florida

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -66.75% J -45.44% M 50.00%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- For the second year in a row, the center has seen a significant increase in students inquiring about undergraduate programs in the U.S.
- The number of undergraduate students matriculating in U.S. institutions is still low due to Iran's high-quality and free public higher education system. Moreover, students believe that applying for U.S. undergraduate programs will decrease their chance of obtaining a student visa.
- Most Iranian students still come to the U.S. for graduate studies.
- Iranian students often interview for their student visas in the United Arab Emirates, Turkey, or Armenia.
- The Education USA Iran adviser is based in Washington, DC, and works remotely. Higher education institution representatives can communicate with the Iran adviser via WhatsApp, phone, and email.
- Due to internet censorship and filtering, access to some social media platforms, including Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter, is limited in Iran. As a result, Iranians are more likely to use unaffected platforms, like Telegram and Instagram.





Iran





- **Pre-high school (# of years):** Six years at primary level from ages six to 12. Primary education is divided into two three-year cycles: primary school one and primary school two. After each cycle, students receive a certificate of completion if they pass the final exam of that cycle. (Note: In 2013, Iran's national education system changed from a system of five years of primary school, three years of middle school, and four years of high school to six years of primary school and six years of high school.)
- **High school (# of years):** Six years from ages 12-18. Secondary education is divided into two three-year cycles: high school one and high school two. After each cycle, students receive a certificate of completion if they pass the final exam of that cycle. Education until the end of high school one, or grade nine, is compulsory, and in the public-school system, free. High school two, or upper secondary education, is not compulsory but is free at public schools. In high school two, students are segmented into three fields (or streams) of the education system: academic (*Nazari*), technical (*Fani Herfei*), and vocational/skills (*Kar-danesh*). A student's stream is dependent primarily on his or her examination results at the end of the lower secondary cycle (high school one), and to a lesser extent on student preference. The academic stream has traditionally been the most popular.
- **Pre-University:** The pre-university year was eventually incorporated into the new 12-year 6+3+3 system, so that high school graduates now sit for entrance examinations without first completing an additional year of pre-university study.
- Academic year calendar: September to June
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: Before planning any proposed trip, please read the U.S. Department of State's Travel Warning for Iran at: https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages/Iran.html. The U.S. government does not have diplomatic or consular relations with Iran and, therefore, cannot provide protection or routine consular services to U.S. citizens in-country. It is best to contact EducationUSA and attend a virtual fair or provide a webinar for prospective students. Take into consideration school breaks and holiday schedule as follows when programing. *Note, dates can shift due to the Islamic and Iranian calendars.
 - Anniversary of the Islamic Revolution, February 11
 - Birthday of Imam Ali, February 15
 - Nowruz Holiday, March 21-22
 - o Islamic Republic Day, March 31
 - Sizdah Bedar, April 2
 - o Khordad National Uprising, June 5
 - Martyrdom of Imam Ali, April 23*
 - Ramadan, April 2 to May 2, 2022*
 - Eid Al Fitr, May 2, 2022
 - o Eid Al Adha, July 9, 2022*

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Persian/Farsi. English and Arabic as a second language.
- Years of mandatory English courses: 6 years English language starts from high school (grade 7)
- Grading system and interpretation:

French System 0-20, where 10=passing grade

- o 17-20 = A (85-100%)
- o 14-16.9 = B (70-85%)
- o 12-13.9 = C (60-70%)
- o 10-11.9 = D (50-60%)
- \circ Below 10 = \hat{F}
- Subjects required: Farsi, mathematics, history, and science
- Name of school leaving exams: Azmoon nahaai Certificate of Competition of Secondary Education (in Farsi) from Ministry of Education, or State Exam Authority & English Translation
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Contact EducationUSA Iran Adviser for best practices at iranadviser@educationusa.org.





Iran





- Other credentials: Students attending *Tizhooshan* schools throughout Iran, affiliated with the National Organization for Development of Exceptional Talents (NODET), can enter the program and university of their choice without taking the *Konkour* (Iran National University Entrance Examination). Some of their high school credits can also be transferred toward their undergraduate degree.
- **Military Service in Iran:** Once male students complete their secondary education, they are required to serve in the Iranian military for two years. They can defer this while studying but must pay a bond to leave Iran for their studies.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations: TOEFL and Duolingo are offered in Iran.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2019): TOEFL iBT: 85 (Reading: 21, Listening: 22, Speaking: 21, Writing: 21, Total: 85)

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 4 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Persian/Farsi
- Years of required English instruction in universities: 1-2 semesters
- Grading system and interpretation: Same as secondary school grading system
- Degrees offered: Kardanil Fogh Diplom (2 years), Karshenasi (4 years), Karshenasi Arshad, Doctora, and Fogh Doctora
- Top fields of study/majors: Engineering, sciences, business, and medical fields
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered in-country: TOEFL, IELTS, GRE
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2019): GRE: V 143.6; Q 157.9; W 2.9
- Study Abroad: The <u>UNESCO Institute for Statistics</u> reports that the global flow of tertiary level students from Iran go to the United States (11,802) followed by Turkey (6,418), Germany (5,656), Italy (4,535) and Canada (4,146). The United States ranks first.

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

EducationUSA Iran Virtual Advising Center

Email: <u>iranadviser@educationusa.org</u> Website: <u>www</u>.educationusairan.com

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/educationusa-iran-virtual-advising-center

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/EdUSA.lran
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/educationusairan/
YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/user/EdUSAlran

Twitter: https://twitter.com/EdUSAlran



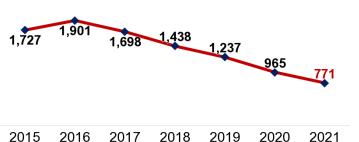


Iraq



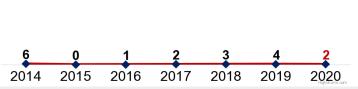






Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Iraq



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	24.1%	186	-9.3%
Graduate	63.8%	492	-27.9%
Non-Degree	2.9%	22	57.1%
OPT	9.2%	71	10.9%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	7%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	3.43%
Master's Colleges and Universities	5.86%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	82.57%
Special Focus Institutions	1.14%
Public Institutions	81.71%
Private Institutions	18.29%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -20.10%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -50.00%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

39,650,145

Population Aged 15-24

19.83%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

Michigan Missouri Texas Ohio South Carolina

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -31.03% J -70.71% M -40%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- Government-funded scholarships remain mostly suspended, with only a few available to continue supporting Ph.D. candidates pursuing programs in high-demand specialties.
- In September 2021, the U.S. Department of State awarded a \$4.75 million grant to the American University of Kurdistan (AUK) to continue its support of American-style higher education in Iraq. Funds from this grant have been used to provide scholarships to students from underrepresented communities and minorities. In addition, this grant will support AUK in obtaining U.S. accreditation, of which it is now in the second phase.
- The U.S.-Iraq Higher Education Partnerships Program (HEPP) has 13 partnerships between Iraqi and U.S. universities. HEPP was launched in 2015 to provide seed funding for partnerships to address priority areas for reform in Iraqi higher education while developing long-term, substantive relationships between partners.



Iraq





- Pre-high school (# of years): 9
- High school (# of years): 3
- Academic year calendar: September-June
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: February (Mid-Term)

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic, Kurdish, or English for some programs
- Years of mandatory English courses: Varies, but in general English language instruction begins in primary school
- **Grading system and interpretation:** The Iraqi grading system awards scores between 0 and 100%, with 50% being the passing score.
- Subjects required: 7 subjects
- Graduation requirements: Depending on field of study, the average number of required courses is 10
- Name of school leaving exams: Baccalaureate
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Ministry
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: Limited availability TOEFL iBT and IELTS. The SAT is available in Baghdad, Erbil, Sulaymaniya, and Babel.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL: Reading: 18, Listening: 20, Speaking: 21, Writing: 20, Total: 79

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 4 years for most fields. A bachelor's degree in architecture, dentistry, pharmacy, and veterinary medicine is awarded after five years of study. A bachelor's degree in medicine is awarded after six years of study.
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic, Kurdish, or English for certain majors
- Years of required English instruction in universities: Varies
- Grading system and interpretation: The Iraqi higher education system awards scores between 0 and 100%, with 50% being the passing score. Grading criteria is strict, but it varies by field. STEM subjects are marked severely, with grades above 80% seldom awarded. Humanities, social sciences, and business administration are marked more leniently, and students receive higher grades. Education and Higher Education are two ministries that are shared between the central Government of Iraq (in Baghdad) and Kurdistan.
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelor's, master's, doctorate
- Top fields of study/majors: Business, sciences, education
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability: The GRE test (paper-based) is given three times a year in Baghdad, Erbil, and Babel.
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2021): GRE: V 140.6, Q 146.7, W 2.6
- Study Abroad: The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary-level students from Iraq has gone to Turkey (7,608), Jordan (6,488), Iran (6,370), Russia (2,776) and Malaysia (2,116). The United States ranks sixth. http://www.uis.unesco.org

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Government of Iraq, Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research: www.mohesr.gov.iq

Kurdistan Regional Government, Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research: www.mhe-krg.org
The Higher Committee for Education Development (HCED Scholarship Program): www.hcedirag.org

EducationUSA Advising Centers

Baghdad: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-embassy-iraq Email: BaghdadEducationAdv@state.gov

Erbil: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-consulate-general-erbil Email: ErbilEducationUSA@state.gov



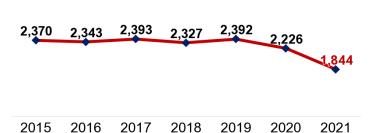


Israel

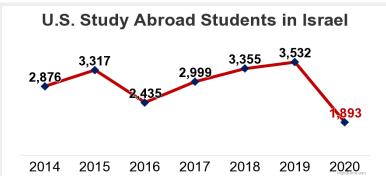








Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	34.8%	641	-3.2%
Graduate	45.2%	834	-15.3%
Non-Degree	1.9%	35	-82.3%
OPT	18.1%	334	-12.3%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	4.66%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	2.60%
Master's Colleges and Universities	9.75%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	78.80%
Special Focus Institutions	4.18%
Public Institutions	39.79%
Private Institutions	60.21%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -17.16%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -46.40%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

New York Massachusetts California Pennsylvania Florida

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

8,787,045

Population Aged 15-24

15.67%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -66.75% J -73.60% M -96.10%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- Upon graduating from high school, all Israeli-Jewish citizens must complete 2 to 2.8 years of military or national service. Most students pursue an undergraduate degree in Israel and subsequently consider the United States for graduate studies. Israeli-Arab students are interested in both undergraduate and graduate studies.
- Due to low tuition rates for undergraduate degrees in colleges and universities in Israel and high availability of scholarships, most Israeli students prefer to study their undergraduate degree in Israel.
- As the demand for employees in the high-tech sector rises, so does the number of students studying STEAM majors. In 2021, the number of women pursuing Computer Science and Math degrees more than doubled; in engineering majors, the numbers have increased by forty percent.
- The most popular programs and majors for Israeli students are Engineering and Architecture, Computer Science and Math, Law, Humanities, Social Sciences, Natural Sciences, and Business Management. The number of students interested in interdisciplinary subjects increased.
- Due to the shifting COVID-19 pandemic, academic studies in Israel are hybrid.





Israel





- Pre-high school (# of years): 6-8 years
- **High school (# of years):** 4-6 years (Some high schools have junior high schools for 7th and 8th grades)
- Academic year calendar: Mid-October through June
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: November-January and March-May
- Major Holidays/Breaks:

Purim (Tel-Aviv): March 17, 2022 Purim (Jerusalem): March 18, 2022 Pesach (Passover): April 15-23, 2022 Israel Independence Day: May 5, 2022 Yom Yerushalayim: May 29, 2022 Feast of Shavuot: June 4-5, 2022 Rosh Hashanah: September 25-27, 2022

Yom Kippur: October 5, 2022

Sukkot: October 9-17, 2022

Semester Break: February-March, July-September Major Exam Period: February-March, July-August

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Hebrew
- Years of mandatory English courses: 9 years
- Grading system and interpretation: On a scale of 100

Excellent: (10) 95 - 100 Very Good: (9) 85 - 94 Good: (8) 75 - 84 Almost good: (7) 65 - 74 Satisfactory: (6) 55 - 64 Almost satisfactory: (5) 45 - 54 Not satisfactory: (4) 54 - 44

- **Subjects required:** Literature, mathematics, bible studies, English, civic studies, history, grammar + 25-unit courses of choice.
- **Graduation requirements:** Matriculation Certificate must reflect 21 units. Achieving passing grades in the required number of units in each of the above subjects: others can be taken as well for the Bagrut.
- Name of school leaving exams: Matriculation Examination Bagrut
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Ministry of Education
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: TOEFL, IELTS, SAT
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL (Reading: 23, Listening: 25, Speaking: 23, Writing: 22, Total: 93)

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 3-4 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Hebrew (English in specific fields or courses of study)
- Years of required English instruction in universities: 1 year
- Grading system and interpretation: Up to 100
- Degrees offered: Bachelors, masters, doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Engineering/architecture, social sciences, math and computer science, medicine and para-medicine, humanities
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability: GMAT, GRE, MCAT, LSAT
- Standardized GMAT test mean scores (as of 2020): 503, mean total scores for online exam: 521
- Study Abroad: The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary level students from Israel go to Romania (2,969) United States (2,124), Ukraine (2,118), Germany (1,759), Republic of Moldova (1,680) and Jordan (1,419). http://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-student-flow

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources





Israel





The Israeli Council of Higher Education recognizes and accredits higher education institutions in the United States. Website: http://studyinisrael.che.org.il/

EducationUSA Israel is located at:

American Center Jerusalem 19 Keren haYesod Street Jerusalem - Israel Email: EdUSA-ACJerusalem@state.gov

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/educationusa-israel



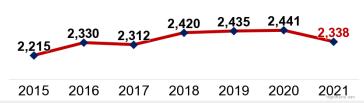


Jordan









Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Jordan 1,085 985 969 735 1,017 1,064 603

Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	37.9%	887	-6.3%
Graduate	44.3%	1035	.9%
Non-Degree	2.7%	64	-47.5%
OPT	15.1%	352	1.7%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	12.80%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	3.05%
Master's Colleges and Universities	9.23%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	72.92%
Special Focus Institutions	2%
Public Institutions	75.39%
Private Institutions	24.61%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -4.22%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -43.33%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

Texas New York California Florida Illinois

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

10,909,567

Population Aged 15-24

19.77%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -44.39% J -66.78% M -20%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 - Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- In November 2019, The Ministry of Education was divided into two ministries: The Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHESR) and The Ministry of Education In October 2021, a Minister of Education & Higher Education and Scientific Research was appointed for both ministries. However, having the two ministries under one minister doesn't mean the ministries have merged into one. Higher education in Jordan continues to be regulated and monitored by the Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research
- There are no official government scholarship programs for Jordanian students. However, several scholarships are available at U.S. institutions that are only offered to Jordanian applicants. The MOHESR maintains a "Study in Jordan" website to encourage international study in Jordan and centralize the intake into Jordanian universities. The website can be found at: http://studyinjordan.jo/. Universities in Jordan offer a wide range of scholarships and fellowships to students interested in pursuing graduate degrees abroad.
- Education USA is housed in the Public Affairs Section at the U.S. Embassy in Amman, Jordan.
- The U.S. Embassy created the Jordanian-U.S. University Cooperation Network (UCN) to establish institutional research partnerships between U.S. higher education institutions and Jordanian universities, and to support faculty and student mobility programs.



Jordan





- Pre-high school (# of years): 10 years
- **High school (# of years):** 2 years. For both public and private schools, 12 years of study is required along with either a terminal Tawjihi degree, or its equivalent. Failure to obtain a Tawjihi or equivalent means a student will not be admitted to a university in Jordan.
- Academic year calendar: September June
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: October, November, February, March, and April
- Major Holidays/Breaks: https://moe.gov.jo/ar/events

New Year's Day January 1, 2022 Palm Sunday April 17, 2022 Easter April 24-25, 2022 Labor Day May 1, 2022 May 2-5, 2022* Eid Al-Fitr May 25, 2022 Jordan Independence Day Eid Al-Adha July 9-13, 2022* Islamic New Year July 30, 2022* Prophet Muhammad's Birthday October 9, 2022* Christmas Day December 25, 2022

Summer Break: June-August

Winter Break: December 29-February 1

https://moe.gov.jo/events

COVID-19 updates:

- As of September 1, 2021, universities and high schools are back to in-person instruction.
- Proof of vaccination is required to access most public spaces and services.

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic is the language of instruction in all public schools. English is primarily the language of instruction in most private schools.
- Years of mandatory English courses: Public school: 10 years. Private school: 12 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Below is the general grading system followed by public schools. Programs like the International Baccalaureate in private schools have a different scale of evaluation that reflects a grading scale of 1 to 7, with 7 being a 100/100.

100 - 90 = A 89 - 80 = B 79 - 70 = C 69 - 60 = D 59 - 50 = E

- Subjects required: Arabic, English, math, and science
- Graduation requirements: 12 years of education (10 years basic education, 2 years secondary education)
- Name of school leaving exams: Tawjihi (GSEC) Official Secondary School Certificate from Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Scientific Research/State Exam Authority or official Cambridge School Certificate from Examinations Council
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: The Ministry of Education
- Other credentials: Jordanian students complete one of the following high school programs:
 - a) Tawiihi (General Secondary Examination): Offered in most schools (very popular)
 - b) International Baccalaureate (IB): Offered only in some of private schools (limited)
 - c) International General Certificate of Secondary Education (IGCSE): Offered only in some private schools
 - d) Advanced Placement (AP): Offered only in a few private schools (very limited)
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: TOEFL, IELTS, SAT, ACT
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL: Reading: 19, Listening: 21, Speaking: 22, Writing: 20, Total: 82





^{*}Islamic holidays are subject to change according to the Lunar Calendar

Jordan





Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 4 years for most fields, some fields may require more years to complete, such as: medicine, pharmacy, engineering, and law
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic, English
- Years of required English instruction in universities: The official language of instruction in Jordan is Arabic, but many programs are taught in English as well
- Grading system and interpretation: Same as secondary school grading system
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelors, masters, doctorate
- Top fields of study/majors: Medicine, engineering, law
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability: GRE, GMAT, USMLE, LSAT
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2019): GRE: V 141.4, Q: 151.7, W: 2.8
- **Study Abroad:** The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary-level students from Jordan go to Saudi Arabia (2,749), Turkey (2,643), United States (2,368), the United Kingdom (1,926) and Malaysia (1,758). The United States is ranked third.

http://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-student-flow

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Ministry of Education
Website: www.moe.gov.jo

Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research

Website: www.mohe.gov.jo

AMIDEAST Jordan

Website: http://www.amideast.org/jordan

EducationUSA Jordan based in the U.S. Embassy, Amman

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-embassy-jordan

https://jo.usembassy.gov/education-culture/study-in-the-usa/

Email: amman@educationusa.org
Email: studyusa-jordan@state.gov





Kuwait

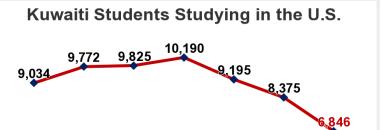
2015

2016

2017







2018 Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

2019

2020

2021

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Kuwait



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	82.2%	5,626	-17.8%
Graduate	11.7%	804	0.8%
Non-Degree	3.3%	223	-59.5%
OPT	2.8%	193	5.5%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	1.99%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	0.70%
Master's Colleges and Universities	12.22%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	83.92%
Special Focus Institutions	1.15%
Public Institutions	76.13%
Private Institutions	23.86%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -18.3%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -20.0%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

4,359,182

Aged 15-24

14.96%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving **States**

California Florida Colorado Arizona

Ohio

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

-64.53% -62.65% -90.48% M

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 - Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- In September 2021, the number of Kuwaiti Government study abroad scholarship recipients increased by almost 29 percent compared to the previous year. A higher number of seniors graduated this year and the previous year's graduates who could not apply for the scholarship last year, applied for this year's scholarship
- For the 2020-21 academic year, the Ministry of Education mandated private and public schools to shift to online teaching. Kuwait remained one of the most restrictive countries throughout the pandemic, which paused all in person activities/outreach.
- Engineering in the United States remains the number one destination of study for Kuwaiti students, with 66 percent of the total scholarship recipients to the U.S. entering engineering programs in September 2021.
- Kuwaitis tend to steer away from medical programs in the U.S. due to the longevity of the program and the need to complete an undergraduate degree prior to getting accepted into medical school.
- In December 2021, six Kuwaiti English language teachers, all graduates of U.S. institutions, launched a pilot public school advising program. The program is supported by the U.S. Embassy Kuwait and the Ministry of Education. Eighty percent of the scholarship applicants come from the public school system.





Kuwait





- Pre-high school (# of years): 8-9
- **High school (# of years)**: 3-4 years
- Academic year calendar: September-June
 - o Beginning of the School Year (Public and Private): September 26, 2021
 - o Term I: September 5 to December 16, 2021
 - o Winter Break: Private schools (December 17, 2021–January 3, 2022)
 - o Term II: January 3 to March 28, 2022
 - o Mid-year break: Public schools (third week of January 2022-Second week of February 2022)
 - Spring Break Private Schools (first week of April 2022)
 - o Term III: April 3 to June 15, 2022
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: September-April. Dates for religious holidays are dependent upon
 the sighting of the moon and may vary. Winter holiday in private schools falls during the Christmas break. Winter
 Holiday in public schools starts during the first week of January. Take into consideration school breaks and holiday
 schedule as follows:
 - o Prophet's Birthday: October 21, 2021
 - o New Year: January 1-2, 2022
 - o Kuwait National/Liberation Day: February 27, 2022
 - o Prophet's Ascension Day: February 28, 2022
 - o Ramadan: April 2-May 2, 2022
 - o Eid Al Fitr: May 1-5, 2022
 - o Eid Al Adha: July 10-22, 2022

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Government and private Arabic schools: Arabic; Private English schools: English
- Years of mandatory English courses: Government Private Arabic Schools: 9-10 years; Private English Schools: 12 years
- Grading system
 - o A: 4.0 pts. (Excellent)
 - o B: 3.0 pts. (Very Good)
 - o C: 2.0 pts. (Good)
 - o D: 1.0 pts. (Pass)
 - o F: 0.0 pts. (Fail)
- Subjects required: Varies by school
- **Graduation requirements:** 75% or higher. However, the Ministry of Higher Education requires a minimum of 80% to be part of the scholarship.
- Other credentials: High School Diploma (Private schools), IGCSE/ A Level Examinations (Private schools)
- How to verify school leaving exams: Kuwait Cultural Office and Ministry of Higher Education. Official School Leaving Certificate from Ministry of Education
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations: TOEFL iBT, IELTS, SAT, ACT
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL iBT: 84 (TOEFL: Reading: 20, Listening: 22, Speaking: 21, Writing: 21)

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 3-4 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Government/private schools: Arabic; private English schools: English
- Years of required English instruction in universities: 3-4 years
- Grading system: Same as secondary school grade system
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees
- Top fields of study/majors: Engineering, business administration, computer science





Kuwait





- Standardized test availability in Kuwait: TOEFL iBT, IELTS, GRE, GMAT
- Standardized test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL iBT: 84 (TOEFL: Reading: 20, Listening: 22, Speaking: 21, Writing: 21)
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores: GRE: V 140.7; Q 145.8; W 2.8
- Scholarship: The government scholarship is for undergraduate studies and includes English language studies during the first year. Kuwaiti students receive their scholarship approvals at the end of June every year. The timeline does not align with the U.S. university application process and can present challenges when students seek admission. For 2021-22, 40 approved majors in the U.S. Petroleum Engineering and Methods of Teaching English were removed. Radiology, Cybersecurity, Data Science, and Biomedical Engineering were added. In September 2021, scholarship recipients to local private universities and colleges changed minimally, but it has increased by 24% to Kuwait University from last year. Scholarship opportunities for graduate students are offered by government agencies and private institutions such as Kuwait University, Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR), the Civil Service Commission, the Public Authority for Education and Training (PAAET) for graduate students only, and the Kuwait Investment Authority (MBA scholarship award). The government scholarship is also available for graduate studies but is subject to very precise eligibility criteria.
- COVID-19 updates: Students in public have been attending in-person classes as of October 3, 2021 and private schools have been back in-person as well during the third week of September 2021. However, some private schools are hybrid due to the COVID restrictions the Ministry of Education has imposed on all schools. It remains unclear when the borders will open for visit visas and visas upon arrival.
- **Study Abroad:** The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary level students from Kuwait go to the United States (10,525), the United Kingdom (4,715), Jordan (3,997), and Bahrain (814).

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Ministry of Higher Education

Website: www.mohe.edu.kw

Kuwait Cultural Office

Washington, D.C. and Los Angeles, CA Website: http://www.kuwaitculture.com

AMIDEAST Kuwait

Website: http://www.amideast.org/kuwait

The EducationUSA advising office in Kuwait is at the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait City.

Embassy of the United States, Kuwait City

Public Affairs Section, Education Advising Masjid Al Aqsa Street Kuwait City, Kuwait Telephone: +965-2-259-1001

Email: kuwaitcity@educationusa.org

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-embassy-kuwait

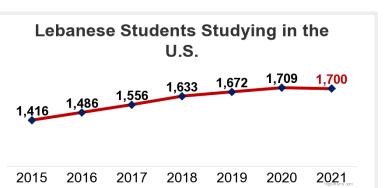




Lebanon







Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Lebanon 26 37 29 56 64 82 39 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	29.4%	499	.8%
Graduate	49.6%	843	5.6%
Non-Degree	1.8%	30	-50.8%
OPT	19.3%	328	-7.6%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	8.35%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	3.16%
Master's Colleges and Universities	8.09%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	77.58%
Special Focus Institutions	2.83%
Public Institutions	61.14%
Private Institutions	38.86%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -0.53%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -52.44%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

5,261,372

Population Aged 15-24

14.98%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

New York
Massachusetts
California
Texas
Michigan

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -59.67% J -63.84% M -100%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- Lebanon has a very active Competitive College Club (CCC) that attracts some of the best students from the region. The CCC students have outstanding profiles in terms of academics and extracurricular activities. In August 2020, ten CCC students were awarded \$2.3 million worth of scholarships over four years.
- Lebanon is witnessing its worst economic crisis preventing students and parents from transferring money in U.S. dollars outside the country or even paying college application fees.
- The EducationUSA adviser in Lebanon serves a diverse student population, including Lebanese nationals and Palestinian and Syrian refugees.
- There are no government scholarship programs for Lebanese students to study abroad.
 Students either are self-funded or look for institutional financial aid.
- There are plenty of high-quality English as Second Language institutions in Lebanon; students tend to study English in Lebanon instead of the United States.



Lebanon





Pre-high school (# of years): 9 years
High school (# of years): 3 years

• Academic year calendar: September-June

• Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: Mid-October to March

Secondary Education (high school)

Language of instruction: Arabic, English, French
 Years of mandatory English courses: 3-4 years

Grading system and interpretation:

Excellent (100% - 85%) Very good (84% - 75%) Good (74% - 65%) Pass (64% - 50%) Fail (49% - 0%)

Subjects required: Average of 10 subjects

• Graduation requirements: Depending on the field of study, the average number of required courses is 10.

- Name of school leaving exams: Brevet Certification (National Exam after grade 9) Lebanese Baccalaureate—offered in all schools (very popular) Lebanese Technical Baccalaureate, offered in vocational secondary schools International Baccalaureate (IB)—offered in several private schools.
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Ministry of Education
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: TOEFL, IELTS, SAT, ACT
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (2020): TOEFL: Reading: 22, Listening: 24, Speaking: 23, Writing: 23, Total: 92.

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 3-4 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic, English, French
- Years of required English instruction in universities: 0-1
- Grading system and interpretation:

Point Grade	Letter Grade	GPA	Interpretation
90	Α	4	Excellent
80	В	3	Very Good
70	С	2	Good
60	D	1	Fair
0-59	F	0	Poor

- Degrees offered: Bachelor's, master's, doctorate
- Top fields of study/majors: Business, engineering, medicine
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability: GRE, GMAT
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (2020): GMAT: 556 / GRE: NA
- **Study Abroad:** The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary level students from Lebanon go to France (4,903), United States (1,525), United Kingdom (1373) and Germany (1121). http://www.uis.unesco.org

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Ministry of Education and Higher Education

Phone: +9611772000

Email: minister@mehe.gov.lb
Web: http://www.mehe.gov.lb

Amideast Lebanon

Phone: +9611989901 ext. 100 Email: <u>lebanon@amideast.org</u> Web: www.amideast.org/lebanon EducationUSA Lebanon

Amideast/ Lebanon Office
Phone: +9611989901 ext. 161
Email: beirut@educationusa.org
Web: www.educationusa.state.gov



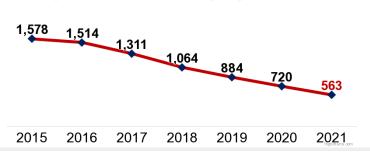


Libya



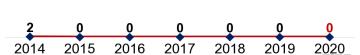






Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Libya



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	20.1%	113	-21%
Graduate	56.8%	320	-21.2%
Non-Degree	3%	17	-22.7%
OPT	20.1%	113	-24.2%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	8.35%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	1.39%
Master's Colleges and Universities	5.57%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	83.90%
Special Focus Institutions	0.79%
Public Institutions	78.13%
Private Institutions	21.87%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -21.806%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 **0**%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

Colorado Ohio Texas Michigan

New York

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

7,017,224

Population Aged 15-24

15.21%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -45.96% J -62.73% M 0%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 - Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- The EducationUSA adviser for Libya is based in Tunis and primarily assists Libyan students virtually.
- Libyans may apply for their student visa at the U.S. Embassy in Tunis or any U.S. embassy or consulate that processes nonimmigrant visas.
- The decrease in Libyan students coming to the United States is attributed to reforms to the Libyan-North American Scholarship Program (LNASP) that is managed by the Libyan Ministry of Higher Education & Scientific Research.
- The lack of liquidity in banks makes it difficult for students to self-fund their studies in the United States. Some students receive scholarships through international corporations operating in Libya.
- Due to the pandemic, students went to school three times per week in 2021.
- The high school national exam for senior students took place in October 2021.
- Libyan students must travel to other countries to take standardized tests; thus, more students are interested in Duolingo and test-optional schools.
- Rampant electricity cuts in the summer and winter months cause unpredictable access to the internet for students.





Libya





- Pre-high school (# of years): 9 years
- **High school (# of years):** 3 years
- Academic year calendar: November to September. Exams (Semester 1): February 27 March 10. Holidays: March 13 -17. Exams (Semester 2): June 26 July 7. National exams (Senior year): July 17 28. Holidays: Sept. 1- 29

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic
- Years of mandatory English courses: 3-4 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Excellent (100% 85%), Very good (84% 75%), Good (74% 65%), Pass (64% 50%), Fail (49% 0%)
- **Subjects required:** General Requirements: Arabic, English, Islamic education, information technology, literature, statistics; social sciences track: reading, composition and literary criticism, geography, history, psychology, grammar, philosophy, demography; science track: math, physics, chemistry, biology
- Graduation requirements: Passing all subjects with no less than 50 percent
- Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion: Secondary Education Certificate
- Name of school-leaving exams: Thanawiya Amma
- How to verify school-leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Must be stamped with the seal and signed by the MOE at the time of graduation, as well as accreditation stamp from the Quality and Accreditation Assurance Center.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: IELTS, many Libyans travel to Tunisia or Egypt to sit for TOEFL/SAT/GRE
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL: Reading: 19, Listening: 21, Speaking: 21, Writing: 20, Total: 82

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 3-7 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic and English
- Years of required English instruction in universities: 0-5 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Same as the secondary education grading scale; some universities use the 4.0 GPA scale
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelors, masters, doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Medicine, dentistry, computer engineering, oil engineering, aviation engineering, economy, English language
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability: IELTS, many Libyans travel to Tunisia or Egypt to sit for TOEFL/SAT/GRE
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): GRE: Verbal Reasoning Mean 138.9, Verbal Reasoning SD 8.0, Quantitative Reasoning Mean 145.1, Quantitative Reasoning SD 9.4, Analytical Writing Mean 2.6, Analytical Writing SD 0.9
- Study Abroad: The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports the global flow of tertiary level students from Libya go to Turkey (1,756), Malaysia (1,729), United States (786), United Kingdom (623), and Tunisia (533). The United States ranks third. http://www.uis.unesco.org

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Technical Co-operation Bureau/Ministry of Basic Education

Website: http://moe.gov.ly

Quality Assurance & Accreditation for Vocational & Technical Institutes

Website: http://www.gaa.ly

EducationUSA Libya has a virtual advising office and provides support to students online https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/educationusa-virtual-advising-office-libya

Email: Libya@educationusa.org



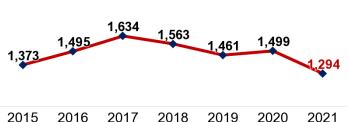


Morocco

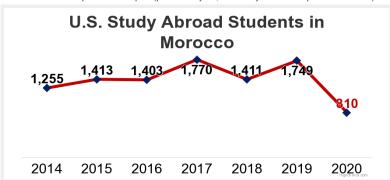








Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	45.1%	583	-15.1%
Graduate	33.5%	433	2.6%
Non-Degree	2.4%	31	-76.2%
OPT	19.1%	247	-5%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	11.51%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	7.79%
Master's Colleges and Universities	16.52%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	62.46%
Special Focus Institutions	1.73%
Public Institutions	55.36%
Private Institutions	44.64%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -13.68%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -53.69%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

New York Massachusetts California Florida Mississippi

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

36,561,813

Population Aged 15-24

16.55%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -45.61% J -69.61% M 400%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- COVID-19 updates:
 - Schools and universities resumed in-person instruction but shifted to remote learning during peaks.
 - A vaccine passport is now required to access most public spaces and services.
- Competition from countries with French linguistic ties remains; however, there has been a recent rise in interest in the UK and Canada. The UK is attractive for its anglophone education, closer proximity, and more affordable options. Canada is of particular interest for its post-study path to work and residency.
- Morocco's public universities consist of 145 higher education institutions with 61 open-access and 84 limited-access.
- In 2021, the Ministry of Higher Education introduced a 4-year bachelor's degree that will gradually replace the 3-year Licence Master Doctorat (LMD) system. Casablanca's public university, Hassan II University, launched the first English taught bachelor's degree in economics & business.
- The International Baccalaureate system implemented English instruction in select public schools. These students represent a good target population for U.S. study.





Morocco





- Pre-high school (# of years): 9 years
- High school (# of years): 3 years
- Academic year calendar: September-June
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: October, November, March, and April

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic and English
- Years of mandatory English courses: 3 years
- Grading system and interpretation: Grades are out of 20 points. 10/20 is the passing grade.
- Subjects required: Philosophy, English, French, Arabic, math, science, economics (depending on your Baccalaureate), chemistry, physics, biology
- Graduation requirements: Passing the Baccalaureate
- Name of school leaving exams: Baccalaureate
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: TOEFL iBT, IELTS, SAT
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL: Reading: 19; Listening: 22; Speaking: 22; Writing: 21; Total: 83

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 3-4 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic, French (English in some programs/universities)
- Years of required English instruction in universities: 3 years
- Grading system and interpretation: Same as secondary school grading system
- **Degrees offered:** Bachelor's, master's, doctorate
- Top fields of study/majors: Engineering, business, sciences, finance
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country: GMAT, GRE
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): GMAT: Total Score Mean: 578
- **Study Abroad:** The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports the global flow of tertiary-level students from Morocco goes to France (31,352), Ukraine (5,721), Germany (4,012), Spain (2,368), Russian Federation (2,338), Canada (1,722), and United States (1,439). The United States ranks seventh. http://www.uis.unesco.org

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Ministry of Education

Website: http://www.men.gov.ma/En

AMIDEAST Morocco

Website: http://www.amideast.org/morocco EducationUSA Advising Centers in Morocco:

Casablanca

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/educationusa-casablanca

Email: casablanca@educationusa.org

Rabat

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/amideast-rabat

Email: rabat@educationusa.org



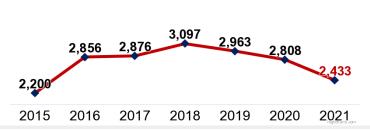


Oman









Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Oman

71	92	143	102	96	149	75
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020

Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	85.6%	2083	-11.7%
Graduate	4.8%	116	-21.6%
Non-Degree	5.3%	130	-31.6%
OPT	4.3%	104	-6.3%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	1.04%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	0.14%
Master's Colleges and Universities	7.69%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	90.68%
Special Focus Institutions	0.45%
Public Institutions	92.13%
Private Institutions	7.87%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -13.4%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -49.7%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

to 2021 3,694,755

Population Aged 15-24

Total Population

17.35%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

Florida Ohio Nebraska California Michigan

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -45.34% J -42.22% M -20%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 - Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The 2020-21 academic year was conducted online in private and public schools as per the Ministry of Education's rules and regulations.
- The Omani government cut the number of undergraduate and graduate scholarships in half, yet many students continue to pursue their higher education studies in the United States.
- Information on the Omani government-sponsored scholarship program and approved U.S. universities can be found at

https://eservices.mohe.gov.om/Student/FindExtUniversity.aspx

- Postgraduate students can apply for the National Postgraduate Scholarship; however, they must study topics that are of national interest. To be eligible for a National Postgraduate Scholarship, applicants must have received an unconditional offer that allows the candidate to gain direct entry into a Ministry of Higher Educationapproved university.
- It is estimated that more than 75 percent of Omanis studying in the United States are on a scholarship program.
- The Oman Direct Entry Scholarship (DES), an external undergraduate student scholarship, was canceled in fall 2021.





Oman





- **Pre-High School (# of years):** 7 years
- High School (# of years): 5 years
- Academic Year Calendar: September-June
- Recommended Times for U.S. Institution Visits: The best time to visit Oman is during one of the education fairs sponsored by the Ministry of Higher Education Research and Innovation including, GHEDEX and GHEDEX Sohar in April, EduTrex (TBD), EduTraC (TBD), and IDP Fairs. Take into consideration school breaks and holiday schedule as follows:
 - Winter Break (January 19–February 7, 2022)
 - The Prophet's Ascension Day (February 28, 2022)
 - Ramadan (April 2-May 2, 2022)
 - Eid al-Fitr (May 3-4, 2022)
 - o Summer break (June 20-August 22, 2022)
 - o Eid al-Adha (July 29, 2022)
 - o Islamic New Year (August 9, 2022)
 - Prophet Mohammed's Birthday (October 7, 2022)
 - o Omani National Day (November 18-19, 2022)

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of Instruction: Public government schools teach in Arabic; private schools teach in English and Arabic; international schools teach in English.
- Years of Mandatory English Courses: 12 years
- Grading System and interpretation:
 - o 95.00 100.00 A
 - o 90.00 94.99 A-
 - o 87.00 89.99 B+
 - o 83.00 86.99 B
 - o 80.00 82.99 B-
 - o 77.00 79.99 C+
 - o 73.00 76.99 C
 - o 70.00 72.99 C-
 - o 65.00 69.99 D+
 - o 60.00 64.99 D
 - o 00.00 59.99 F
- Graduation Requirements: Arabic, English, Math, Religion, Physical Education, and Science
- Name of school-leaving exams: Thanawiya Amma
- Name of School Leaving Exams: General Education Diploma (Secondary School Leaving Certificate)
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations: TOEFL, SAT
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL IBT: Reading: 22, Listening: 23, Speaking: 23, Writing: 22, Total: 90

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 3-4 years
- Language of Instruction in Universities: Arabic, English
- Years of required English instruction in universities: 8 years
- Degrees Offered: High Diploma, bachelor's, master's

•





Oman





- **Top Fields of Study/Majors:** Business, engineering (civil, chemical, petroleum), computer science (artificial intelligence, information technology), alternative energy, logistics, aviation, and architecture.
- Standardized testing availability in Oman: TOEFL, IELTS, GRE
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores: TOEFL iBT Reading: 22, Listening: 23, Speaking: 23, Writing: 22, Total: 90, GRE: V: 141.7, Q: 146.7, W: 8.2
- Scholarship: The Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation (MoHERI) has a number of scholarships for study in the United States. To receive a scholarship, students must choose from a list of MoHERI-approved schools. Students may request an area of study or major, or the MoHERI may choose one for them. Most scholarships are awarded to support "Omanization" increasing the number of employed Omanis in Oman. Majors are chosen for the students based on their grades and studies that promote sustainable economic growth.
- For undergraduate studies:
 - **STEM:** Provides tuition, books, and fees with no cost limit, and a monthly salary, health insurance, and round-trip plane tickets during the school breaks.
 - **ESAM:** Provides tuition, books, and fees up to \$20,000, and a monthly salary, insurance, and round-trip plane tickets during the school breaks.
- For graduate studies:
 - National Postgraduate: Students must study topics that are of national interest at reputable universities. To be eligible for a National Postgraduate Scholarship, applicants must have received an unconditional offer that allows the candidate to gain direct entry into a MoHERI-approved university.
- Study Abroad: The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary-level students from Oman go to the United States (3,378), United Kingdom (2,318), Malaysia (947), Australia (837), and Jordan (511). The United States ranks first.
- **COVID-19 Updates:** Students in public, private, and international schools have been attending in-person classes as of August/September 2021. However, some public schools are hybrid due to COVID-19 restrictions. International and private schools, however, are operating normally.

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation

Website: https://www.mohe.gov.om

• Higher Education Admission Centre (responsible for external scholarship distribution)

Website: http://www.heac.gov.om

Oman Academic Accreditation Authority (OAAA)

Website: http://www.oaaa.gov.om/ar/Default.aspx

GHEDEX University Fair

Website https://ghedex.om/2022/Site/ghedex/

EduTrac University Fair

Website: http://www.edutracoman.com

EduTrex University Fair

Website https://www.edutrex.com

EducationUSA Oman is based out of the U.S. Embassy, Muscat.





Oman





EducationUSA Muscat

Embassy of the United States, Muscat Public Affairs Section, Education Advising Madinat Al Sultan Qaboos Muscat, Oman

Tel: +968-2-464-3400

Email: edusaoman@state.gov

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-embassy-muscat





2017

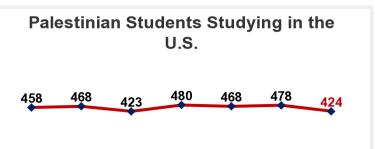
2016

2015

Palestinian Territories







2018 Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

2019

2020

2021

U.S. Study Abroad Students in **Palestinian Territories** 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018

Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	44.6%	189	-1%
Graduate	41.7%	177	-11.5%
Non-Degree	1.4%	6	-77.8%
OPT	12.3%	52	-13.3%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	8.62%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	10.97%
Master's Colleges and Universities	9.66%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	68.41%
Special Focus Institutions	2.35%
Public Institutions	59.27%
Private Institutions	40.73%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -11.30%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -78.57%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

4,906,308

Population Aged 15-24

20.7%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

Arizona/New York Florida Texas Illinois Massachusetts/Minnesota

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

-63.74% -72.69% -100%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 -Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- The 2021/2022 academic year began with in-person classroom instruction for all schools and higher education institutions in the Palestinian Territories. COVID-19 health and safety protocols continue to remain in place, which includes testing, monitoring and guidelines for isolation, guarantine, and school closure, should the circumstances warrant. The Palestinian Ministry of Education also announced that all ministry and teaching staff and university students must be vaccinated. The school year also began with a shift to four terms, instead of a two-semester calendar year, including three breaks.
- On February 15, 2021, the Palestinian Ministry of Higher Education announced a revised policy for the Tawjihi (secondary leaving exam) equivalency requirements. The new requirements include ministry-approved alternative test options to replace the SAT II subject exams, which were discontinued by the College Board as of June 2021.
- Twenty-eight Palestinian students from the West Bank and Gaza participated in the EducationUSA Academy Connects during Spring and Summer 2021.





Palestinian Territories





- Pre-high school (# of years): 10 years of compulsory basic education, from grades 1-10.
- High school (# of years): 2 years of secondary education, covering grades 11 and 12. Consideration for university admission requires 12 years of study along with either successful completion of secondary school exit exam or its equivalent.
- Academic year calendar: August June
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: September-November, February-March
- Major Holidays/Breaks:

New Year's Day January 1, 2022 Orthodox Christmas January 7, 2022 February 28, 2022 The Prophet's Ascension April 2-May 1, 2022 Ramadan May 1, 2022 Labour Day Eid Al-Fitr May 2-4, 2022 Eid Al-Adha July 9 – July 12, 2022 Islamic New Year July 30, 2022 Prophet Muhammad's Birthday October 8, 2022

Christmas December 25, 2022 Summer Break June-August

Fall/Winter/Spring School Breaks

Major Exam Period December/January, May/June

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic, English
- Years of mandatory English courses: 3 years
- **Grading system and interpretation:**

100 - 90Excellent 80 - 89Very Good 79 - 70Good 69 - 60Satisfactory 59 - 50Unsatisfactory/Poor

49 & Below Failing

- Subjects required: Arabic, English, math, religion, information technology, social studies, general science, physical education. Science stream includes advanced math, physics, biology, chemistry, and economics.
- Graduation requirements: Depending on field of study, the average number of required courses is 8.
- Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion: Certificate of General Secondary Education Exam (Tawjihi) Year XXXX.
- Name of school-leaving exams: General Secondary School Certification Examination (Tawjihi). The Tawjihi exam consists of two major tracks: scientific and literary streams, in addition to entrepreneurship/business, commercial, vocational, technology, agriculture, hospitality, and religion.
- How to verify school-leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Palestinian Ministry of Education & Higher
- Other credentials: Passing marks (50% and above) in 12th grade, but the passing score of 65% and above on Tawjihi is a requirement for Palestinian university admission.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: TOEFL iBT, IELTS, SAT, and Duolingo
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): iBT-TOEFL: Reading: 19, Listening: 21, Speaking: 21, Writing: 20, Total: 81/120





Palestinian Territories





Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 4-5 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic, English
- Years of required English instruction in universities: Based on results from an English proficiency exam. It varies from a minimum of 1 semester to 3 semesters and degree program
- Grading system and interpretation: Similar to secondary education grading scale (see above)
- **Degrees offered:** Associate's, bachelor's, master's, doctorate
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Engineering, IT, medicine, law, business administration, economic, English literature, and education
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability / frequency offered in-country: GRE, GMAT, LSAT
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores: GRE: V 142.6; Q 151.8; W 3.0 (as of 2019); GMAT Mean Score 404 (as of 2020)
- Study Abroad: The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the total number of mobile students abroad is 27,384 and the global flow of tertiary level students from the Palestinian Territories go to Jordan (8,343), Saudi Arabia (5,348), Turkey (2,483), Germany (1,576), and Qatar (1,054). The United States ranks eighth. http://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-student-flow

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Palestinian Ministry of Education & Higher Education

Website: http://www.mohe.pna.ps

Amideast West Bank and Gaza

Website: https://www.Amideast.org/west-bank-gaza

EducationUSA advising centers in Palestinian Territories

EducationUSA West Bank

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/educationusa-amideast-ramallah

Email: Ramallah@educationusa.org

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/EducationUSAWestBank/

EducationUSA Gaza

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/educationusa-amideast-gaza

Email: Gaza@educationusa.org

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/EducationUSAGaza/



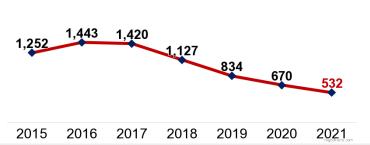


Qatar









Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Qatar

99	138	122	108	96	62	29
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020

Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	81.7%	459	-17.1%
Graduate	13%	73	-2.7%
Non-Degree	2.1%	12	-61.3%
OPT	3.2%	18	80%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	11.48%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	1.36%
Master's Colleges and Universities	11.48%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	74.71%
Special Focus Institutions	0.97%
Public Institutions	74.12%
Private Institutions	25.88%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -16.12%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 -53.23%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

Florida Colorado New York California Arizona

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

2479995

Population Aged 15-24

11.78%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -63.54% J -56.00% M -100%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- In 2021, the Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE) limited the number of government scholarships. To receive a scholarship to study abroad, prospective Qatari students must select a major that is not offered in Qatar and choose a university and major that are both approved by the MEHE.
- All male citizens who are 18 years old or have their secondary school certificate (or equivalent), must complete one year of National Service (Optional for females). This law impacts the number of Qatari students that can pursue higher education immediately following high school graduation. In 2021, only students who are accepted into medical study programs can waive the requirement.
- Qatari students can choose from different scholarship programs: government scholarship programs and state-owned and private organizations such as Qatar Energy, Qatar Airways, Sidra Medicine, and Qatar Rail.
- There continues to be an emphasis on all STEM fields for both undergraduate and graduate studies.
 For example, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, aeronautical engineering, computer science, medical studies, and all fields having to do with sea, air, and land transportation.



Qatar





- **Pre-high school (# of years):** 9 years
- **High school (# of years):** 3 years
- Academic year calendar: September-June/July
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: October, November, March and April

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic, English
- Years of mandatory English courses: 12 years
- Grading system and interpretation:

Α	Excellent	(91 - 100%)
В	Very Good	(76 - 90.5%)
С	Good	(61 - 75.5%)
D	Pass	(50 - 60.5%)
F	Fail	(0 - 49.5%)

- Subjects required: Math, English, sciences, information technology, social sciences, Arabic, Islamic studies, Qatar history
- Graduation requirements: Completing 12 years of schooling and passing the high school certificate exam
- Name of school leaving exams: Qatar High School Certificate (Al Thanawiya Al Aama)
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Contact EducationUSA adviser for guidance
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: TOEFL iBT, IELTS, SAT, ACT
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL: Reading: 17, Listening: 21, Speaking: 21, Writing: 20, Total: 79.

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 4 years
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic and English
- Years of required English instruction in universities: 4 years for Engineering/Sciences
- **Grading system and interpretation:** Grading system for Qatar University is based on the U.S. system. http://www.qu.edu.qa/students/registration/records/grades_symbols.php
- Degrees offered: Associates, bachelor's, master's, doctorate
- Top fields of study/majors: Engineering, Information Technology, Business, Medical Sciences
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability: GRE, GMAT
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean total score (as of 2020): GRE: V 139; Q 144.2; W 2.6
- **Study Abroad:** The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary level students from Qatar go to United Kingdom (2,874), Jordan (2,542), United States (989), India (394), and Morocco (102). The United States ranks third. http://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-student-flow

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Ministry of Education and Higher Education (MEHE)

Website: https://www.edu.gov.ga/en/Pages/HomePage.aspx

MEHE Scholarships Approved University List search

link: https://www.edu.gov.ga/en/deputy/heaffairs/pages/unischolarshipeout.aspx

Qatar Foundation for Education, Science, and Community Development

Website: http://www.gf.edu.ga

EducationUSA Qatar is based in the U.S. Embassy Doha

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-embassy-doha

Email: doha@educationusa.org



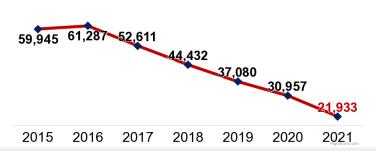


Saudi Arabia



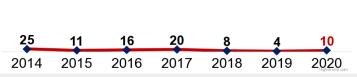






Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Saudi Arabia



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	53.5%	11738	-30.3%
Graduate	33.3%	7310	-12.6%
Non-Degree	6.0%	1306	-65.9%
OPT	7.2%	1579	-17.9%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	3.41%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	1.57%
Master's Colleges and Universities	18.27%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	75.37%
Special Focus Institutions	1.37%
Public Institutions	70.14%
Private Institutions	29.86%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -29.2%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 150.0%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

Pennsylvania California Ohio Florida Arizona

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

34,783,757

Population Aged 15-24

15.38%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -78.06% J -76.48% M -66.90%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- Saudi Arabia is the fifth leading place of origin, and the first among Middle Eastern countries, for students coming to the United States to pursue higher education.
- The Ministry of Education changed the academic year to be three semesters instead of two semesters, in which the academic year runs from September to the end of June.
- The Ministry of Education offers two tracks of scholarships: The Tamayuz Scholarship to study new disciplines that contribute to building a prosperous and diversified economy, and to support the Kingdom's promising sectors, such as tourism, to achieve the Kingdom's Vision 2030. The other track is Health Specialties, which targets specializations in healthcare to provide qualified health cadres in various specialties in the public and private sectors.
- The Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission (SACM) in Virginia manages and monitors Saudi students in the United States who come through any Saudi scholarship program.





Saudi Arabia





- Pre-high school (# of years): 9 years total, 6 years elementary, and 3 years intermediate.
- **High school (# of years):** 3 years. Secondary school education lasts for three years (ages 15-18) and leads to the high school diploma.
- Academic year calendar: September-June
 - Start of first-term classes, August 29, 2021
 - Saudi National Day Long weekend, September 22-23, 2021
 - o Long weekend, October 17-18, 2021
 - o Long weekend, November 4, 2021
 - Start of the first semester vacation, November 25, 2021
 - o Start of the second semester, December 5, 2021
 - o Long weekend, December 19, 2021
 - o Mid-semester for second semester vacation, January 6, 2022
 - o Resume of second semester, January 16, 2022
 - o Long weekend, February 2-3, 2022
 - Long weekend, February 23-24, 2022
 - Start of the second semester vacation, March 10, 2022
 - o Third semester starts. March 20, 2022
 - o Eid Al Fitr vacation starts, April 25, 2022
 - o Classes resume after Eid Al Fitr vacation, May 8, 2022
 - o Long weekend, May 25-26, 2022
 - o Long weekend, June 15-16, 2022
 - End of year, vacation starts, June 30, 2022
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: September-December, February-March. Avoid coming during Ramadan and summer. Major exam period: End of November, early March, and end of June.

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic in state schools, English in some private schools, but the majority in Arabic. English in international schools, except for Arabic and Islamic studies (Arabic).
- Years of mandatory English courses: As of the 2021-2022 academic year, English language study is mandatory from Grade 1 in contrast to previous years, at which they started in Grade 4.
- Grading system and interpretation:
 - o 90-100 (Excellent)
 - o 75-89 (Very Good)
 - o 60-74 (Good)
 - o 50-59 (Pass)
 - o 0-49 (Fail)
- **Subjects required:** Islamic education, Arabic language and literature, social sciences, natural sciences, mathematics, English, computer science
 - **Graduation requirements:** The examination of the high school diploma is unified and held nationwide simultaneously. Students can choose between general secondary and technical schools after the intermediate level. In the first year of general secondary school, students share a common curriculum. At the end of this year, they are divided into scientific and literary tracks for the final two years. Students obtaining a score of 60% and above in all first-year subjects may choose between the literary and scientific track. Students obtaining a score of less than 60% must opt for the literary track.
- Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion: General High School Diploma
- Name of school leaving exams:
 - Standard Achievement Admission Test (SAAT)
 - The first year: Grade 10, 20%
 - The second year: Grade 11, 30%
 - The third year: Grade 12, 50%
 - o **Tahsili** and The General Aptitude Test (GAT)





Saudi Arabia





- Qudrat: 100 points, 81 and higher is preferred, but many universities accept less. Overall, universities require 80% in Qudrat and 20% in high school scores.
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Ministry of Education. There are three systems of secondary education in Saudi Arabia.
 - Credit Hours System. The new structure for secondary education is the credit hours system (courses system).
 It consists of a common program that is taught to all students and divided into two major tracks. One for humanities and the other for natural sciences. Students are directed to study in one of the two tracks. The new structure has many components, including:
 - Regularized credit hours that the student must register per semester.
 - A system of semester and cumulative averages.
 - An integrated curriculum system that links academic courses together to enable the student to acquire life and practical skills that would prepare the student for life and the labor market.
 - Qualitative methods of teaching and learning and new tools for evaluation.
 - o Course System. The study plan for the courses system consists of three programs: the joint program, the specialized program, and the optional program.
 - The study plan for secondary education, according to the curriculum system, is 200 hours.
 - The joint program is 125 hours and 26 courses.
 - The specialized program is 60 hours and 12 courses.
 - Natural sciences track
 - Humanities track
 - The optional program is 10 hours, for no less than two, and no more than five, courses.

Some courses can be equivalent to international examinations, certificates and international licenses in the Holy Quran, English language, and computer, which saves effort and time for high school students, according to the approved controls. The course system is in line with the international program systems, considering the credit hours system applied in the two systems, such as the American diploma. Credits and transfer between the two systems can be done according to specific controls.

- Technical education includes industrial, commercial, and agricultural schools. An Intermediate School Certificate is required for admission. Courses lead to the Secondary Industrial School Diploma, the Secondary Commercial School Diploma, and the Secondary Agricultural School Diploma. There are also technical assistant institutes, which offer two-year vocational courses in architectural drawing, construction supervision, health supervision, road supervision, surveying and water supervision leading to the Certificate of Technical Assistant Institute.
- Health Institutes and Nursing Schools offer three-year courses leading to the Health Institute Diploma or the Certificate of Technical Nursing. Male and female education is completely segregated in all levels of school education.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations:
 TOEFL iBT, IELTS, SAT
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL iBT: 78 (Reading:17, Listening:21, Speaking: 21, Writing: 19)

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: Four years (+ foundation year) except in pharmacy and medicine (four years + hospital training) and engineering and veterinary medicine (five years each).
- Teacher Education: The academic qualifications required to teach in Saudi schools vary by level of education. Whereas elementary school teachers and female teachers in intermediate schools for girls can teach with a two-year teaching diploma, secondary school teachers are usually required to either have a bachelor's degree in education, or to have completed a one- or one-and-a-half-year higher diploma program in education, in addition to a bachelor's degree in another discipline. However, the government now seeks to ensure that all teachers have at least a bachelor's degree and be teachers with a license, which needs to be renewed during their teaching career years by taking certain tests.
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic, English. English is used as the medium of instruction in technological and science fields and all other subjects are taught in Arabic.
- Years of required English instruction in universities: Varies by institution.
 Grading system and interpretation: The main grading system used is a 5.0 scale; however, several institutions use a 4.0 scale.





Saudi Arabia





- o 95 to 100. 5.0 = A+ Excellent
- o 90 to less than 95, 4.75 = A Excellent
- o 85 to less than 90, 4.5 = B+ Very Good
- o 80 to less than 85, 4.0 = B Very Good
- o 75 to less than 80, 3,5 = C+ Good
- \circ 70 to less than 75, 3.0 = C Good
- o 65 to less than 70, 2.5 = D+ Pass
- o 60 to less than 65, 2.0 = D Pass
- Less than 60, 1.0 = F Fail
- o King Fahad University adopts a 4.0 grading scale
- Degrees offered: Bachelor's, master's, and doctorate degrees
- Top fields of study/majors: Engineering, medical studies, computer science, business, sciences, law.
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country: TOEFL iBT, IELTS, GRE, GMAT, USMLE I.

Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL iBT: 78 (Reading: 17, Listening: 21, Speaking: 21, Writing: 19) and GRE: Verbal: 136.6, Quantitative Reasoning: 142.2, Writing: 2.1.

• Study Abroad: The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary level students from Saudi Arabia go to the United States (38,410), United Kingdom (8,023), Australia (4,221), and Malaysia (2,149). The United States ranks first.

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

• Ministry of Education, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques' Overseas Scholarship Program

Website: http://www.moe.gov.sa

Saudi Arabian Cultural Mission

Website: http://sacm.org

Scholarship Students Portal Safeer 2 (Arabic Content)

Website: https://safeer2.moe.gov.sa/Portal

National Commission for Academic Accreditation & Assessment

Website: https://etec.gov.sa/en/About/Centers/Pages/Accreditation.aspx

• iEN National Education Portal

Website: https://ien.edu.sa/Home/dashbord

National Center for Assessment in Higher Education

Website: https://etec.gov.sa/en/About/Centers/Pages/giyas.aspx

SAAT Tahsili Center

Website: https://www.saattahsili.com/

General Aptitude Test (GAT) Qudrat

Website: https://www.etec.gov.sa/en/productsandservices/Qiyas/Education/generalabilities/Pages/default.aspx

Saudi Commission for Health Specialties

Website: https://www.scfhs.org.sa/en/Pages/default.aspx

KAUST Gifted Student Program

Website: https://kgsp.kaust.edu.sa/

MAWHIBA

Website: https://www.mawhiba.org/Ar/Pages/default.aspx





Saudi Arabia





MISK

Website: https://misk.org.sa/en/

Tatweer

Website: https://www.tatweer.sa/en/thc/

• Institute of Public Administration (IPA)

Website: https://www.ipa.edu.sa/en-us/Pages/default.aspx

SABIC

Website: https://webapps.sabic.com/continuouslearning/ui/user/default.aspx

ARAMCO

Website: https://www.aramco.com/en/careers/saudi-applicants/non-employee-programs

The Royal Commission for Al Ula

Website: https://www.rcu.gov.sa/#!/home

General Entertainment Authority

Website: https://giddiya.com/en/opportunities/scholarship/

NEOM Saudi Mega City Project

Website: https://www.neom.com/en-us/, https://neom.ut.edu.sa/neomacademv/index.aspx

The Ministry of Culture

Website: https://engage.moc.gov.sa/scholarships

EducationUSA Saudi Arabia advisers are based at the U.S. Embassy Riyadh; U.S. Consulate General Dhahran; and the U.S. Consulate General Jeddah.

• EducationUSA Riyadh

Embassy of the United States, Riyadh

Diplomatic Quarter, Across from the United Nations building

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

Telephone: +966-488-3800, ext. 4505 or 4207

Email: EduRiyadh@state.gov

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-embassy-rivadh

EducationUSA Jeddah

U.S. Consulate General Jeddah

Near al-Safa Street, by the New American School building

Al Muhammadiyah, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia Telephone: +966.12.2205000, ext. 3298

Email: EduJeddah@state.gov

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-consulate-general-jeddah

EducationUSA Dhahran

U.S. Consulate General Dhahran

Next to King Fahad University for Petroleum & Minerals

Dhahran, Saudi Arabia

Telephone: +966-13-330-3200, ext. 3044

Email: EduDhahran@state.gov

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-consulate-general-dhahran



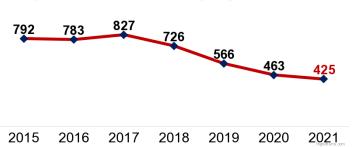


Syria









Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Syria 0 1 1 0 0 1 1 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020

Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	43.8%	186	-20.2%
Graduate	39.5%	168	11.3%
Non-Degree	2.4%	10	-44.4%
OPT	14.4%	61	0%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	7.59%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	5.76%
Master's Colleges and Universities	8.90%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	75.92%
Special Focus Institutions	1.83%
Public Institutions	63.61%
Private Institutions	36.39%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -8.21%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 0%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

New York
Massachusetts
Florida
Arizona
Texas

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

20,384,316

Population Aged 15-24

19.34%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -52.38% J -64.58% M -100%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 - Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- Since the U.S. Embassy in Damascus has suspended operations, students must apply for student visas outside Syria.
- As of March 2021, UNHCR estimated that 6.6 million Syrian refugees are living in neighboring countries, and another 6.7 million are internally displaced inside Syria. Approximately several hundred thousand of those are college aged.
- Barriers to accessing higher education outside of Syria include lack of funding and limited scholarship opportunities, language barriers, lack of accreditation and translation services for transcripts, and limited access to official documents.
- Education USA Syria has been successfully advising Syrian students virtually since 2011 using multiple online platforms including email, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Skype, Google+ Hangouts, and Zoom.
- Approximately 50% of the students who contact Education USA are still in Syria, and 50% are outside.
- On January 20, 2021, President Biden issued a presidential proclamation ending the travel restrictions under Presidential Proclamations 9645 and 9983 that had suspended entry into the United States of certain nationals including Syrians.



Syria





- Pre-high school (# of years): Nine, completed by a national examination.
- Years of mandatory English courses: Nine, studied at an average of three classes per week.

Secondary Education (high school)

- **Number of years:** Three, completed by a national examination. Students have the choice to pursue either a vocational or general secondary education.
- Vocational Education: Commercial, industrial, or feminine study track.
- **General Education:** Includes two study tracks: scientific or literary.
 - Subjects required: Subjects studied in general secondary education vary according to the study track. Religious education, Arabic, national education, foreign language (English, French or Russian), and physical education are studied in both scientific and literary tracks. Philosophy and human Sciences, history, and geography are studied in the literary track, while math, information technology, biology and earth sciences, physics, and chemistry are studied in the scientific track.
- Academic year calendar: September to June
 - Major holidays: Christmas (December 25), New Year (January 1), Mid Term (December 24 January e4),
 Teacher Day (March 19), Mother Day (March 21), Labor Day (May 1)
- Language of instruction: Arabic
- Years of mandatory English courses: Three, studied at an average of three classes per week.
- Grading system: The minimum passing score for Arabic is 50%, and 40% for all other subjects.
- **Graduation requirements:** Passing the Syrian Baccalaureate examination requires a passing score in Arabic and in all but one of the other subjects, or a passing score in Arabic and all but two of the other subjects as long as the combined score of the failed subjects is 25%.
- Name of diploma/certificate/degree conferred upon completion: 'Shahadat Al-Thanawiya Al-'Ama' (General Secondary School Certificate)
- How to verify high school (grade 12) final test scores: Online at: http://moed.gov.sy/site. Test scores from 2014 and onward are available. The website is in Arabic. If you need help navigating the site, please contact EducationUSA Syria Adviser.
- Other credentials: Starting in 2013, Etilaf (National Coalition of Syrian Revolution and Opposition Forces) began processing their own basic and secondary education national exams for Syrian displaced and refugee students in Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey, and liberated parts of Syria.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country:
 - o TOEFL iBT Home Edition is available and can be paid for through a testing center in Damascus.
 - SAT Test is available in Damascus five times a year (same as those of international test centers)
 - TOEFL (ITP) and TOEIC are available in Damascus upon request.

For students who live outside Damascus, it could be challenging, expensive, and sometimes unsafe to travel to Damascus to take any of the above tests. Flexibility with standardized testing requirements can go a long way towards helping Syrian students.

• Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL: Reading 20, Listening 22, Speaking 22, Writing 20, Total 84.

Structure of University System

- **Degrees offered:** Bachelors, masters, doctorate
- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 4-6 years
- Top fields of study/majors: Business, engineering, computer science
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic in public universities and English and Arabic in private universities depending on the field of study.
- Grading system and interpretation: Percent grade system converted to U.S. letter grade system:





Syria





90-100 (Honors) = A 80-89 (Distinction) = A 70-79 (Very Good) = A 60-69 (Good) = B 50-59 (Pass) = C Below 50 (Fail) = F

- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability/frequency offered in-country: GRE General Home Edition is available and can be paid for through a testing center in Damascus.
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): GRE: V 143.6, Q 151.8, W 3.1. Study Abroad: The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary level students from Syria go to Turkey (27,034), Germany (12,442), Saudi Arabia (7,768), Jordan (6,592), France (1,760), and other countries. The United States ranks eleventh with (601) students. http://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-student-flow

COVID-19

- According to World Health Organization, as of October 2021, (42,351) reported cases and (2,536) fatalities were confirmed throughout the country. (977,122) vaccine doses have been administered.
- Syrian students resume in-person study on May 31, 2020, after a temporary closure mandated by the Ministries of Education and Higher Education. Damaged electricity infrastructures and unreliable internet connectivity do not support virtual education in Syria.

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Ministry of Education: <u>www.moed.gov.sy</u>
- Ministry of Higher Education: http://www.mohe.gov.sy
- Syrian National Baccalaureate Exam Verification Website: http://moed.gov.sy/site (2014 Onward)
- Ministry of Education E-textbooks (Grade 1-12): http://bit.ly/2qVKJr9

EducationUSA Syria Virtual Advising Center

- Email: svria@educationusa.org
- Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/educationusa-syria-virtual-advising-center
- Facebook: @EducationUSASyria
- Twitter: @EdUSASyria
- Instagram: @EducationUSASyria

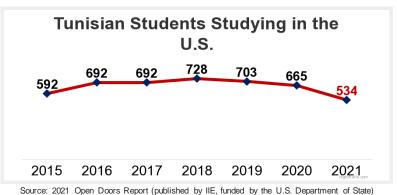




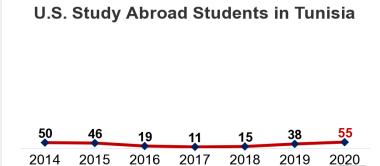
Tunisia







Source. 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIIE, funded by the O.S. Department of St



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	40.6%	217	-20.5%
Graduate	37.5%	200	-3.8%
Non-Degree	1.7%	9	-88.3%
OPT	20.2%	108	.9%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	15.30%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	7.38%
Master's Colleges and Universities	12.58%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	62.68%
Special Focus Institutions	2.10%
Public Institutions	62.47%
Private Institutions	37.53%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -19.70%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 44.74%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

California Massachusetts New York Florida Michigan

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

11,811,335

Population Aged 15-24

12.90%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -45.64% J -71.52% M -75%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 - Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- Online degrees are of interest and in demand by students, but the recognition of these degrees by employers is a concern.
- Students are increasingly looking for testoptional institutions or those accepting Duolingo English Tests due to financial concerns.
- The economic recession has exacerbated family income and the ability to pay for college expenses.
- More students are interested in the Fulbright Foreign Student Program, as it offers full funding.
- School disruptions led to counselors adopting the semester and period classification in transcripts interchangeably.



Tunisia





- Pre-high school (# of years): 9 years
- High school (# of years): 4 years
- Academic year calendar: September-June
- Recommended times for U.S. institution visits: October-March

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic and French
- Years of mandatory English courses: 7 years
- Grading system and interpretation: Grading system on a scale of 20 points, where 10 = passing grade
- **Subjects required:** Arabic, philosophy, French, English, Islamic studies, civics, history, geography, mathematics, physical science, natural science, technical science, physical education, economics, management, music, art, and a third foreign language. The number of years of each subject depends on the concentration.
- Graduation requirements: Pass the Baccalaureate, Examen National du Baccalauréat
- Name of school leaving exams: Examen National du Baccalauréat
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Contact an EducationUSA adviser for guidance
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: IELTS, TOEFL iBT, SAT
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): TOEFL: Reading: 19, Listening: 21, Speaking: 21, Writing: 20, Total: 82

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 3 years
- Language of instruction in universities: French, Arabic
- Years of required English instruction in universities: 3 years
- Grading system and interpretation: Grading system on a scale of 20 points:

Exceptional 17 - 20
Excellent 16
Very good 14 - 15
Good 12 - 13
Satisfactory 10 - 11
Unsatisfactory Below 10

The standard of equivalence with the American G.P.A. is roughly as above, with some slight variations depending on institutions and majors. Final grade averages at the university level above 14.00 are exceedingly rare, although grades for individual courses naturally run slightly higher than the final average. Any qualification/ distinction (French: Mention) attached to the numerical grade carries real distinction in recognition of a student's total performance, and a diploma with such qualification is a clear indication of excellence.

- **Degrees offered:** License (three years), master's (two years), and doctorate (five years). There are also independent engineering degrees which require five years of university study.
- **Top fields of study/majors:** Engineering, medical studies, architecture, law, literature and humanities, social sciences and arts.
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability: GRE, GMAT, LSAT
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2020): GRE: V 147.9, Q 152.0, W 3.3
- **Study Abroad:** The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports the global flow of tertiary level students from Tunisia go to France (9,823), Germany (6,223), Canada (1,038), Russian Federation (1,024), Romania (995). The United States (621) ranks sixth: http://www.uis.unesco.org.

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

- Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MOHESR): http://www.universites.tn
- Ministry of Education (MOE): http://www.edunet.tn
- The National Statistics Institute: http://www.ins.nat.tn

EducationUSA Tunis is based at Amideast Tunisia: https://www.amideast.org/tunisia



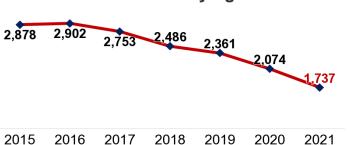


United Arab Emirates



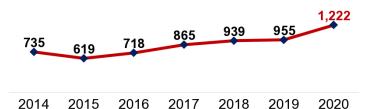






Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in United Arab Emirates



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	80.5%	1399	-15.5%
Graduate	13.4%	233	-8.6%
Non-Degree	4%	66	-45.5%
OPT	2.2%	39	-9.3%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	3.84%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	4.66%
Master's Colleges and Universities	11.15%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	79.71%
Special Focus Institutions	0.63%
Public Institutions	78.51%
Private Institutions	21.49%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -16.2%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 28.0%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Top Five Receiving States

Arizona
California
Pennsylvania
Virginia
Indiana

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

9,856,612

Population Aged 15-24

7.94%

Source: The World Fact Book

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -57.51% J -59.79% M -100.00%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 - Sept. 30 Source: travel.state.gov

- UAE students are eligible for 100 percent full scholarships to study in the United States. Benefits differ depending on the UAE entity awarding the scholarship and may be specific to a particular Emirate.
- The following fields are eligible for government scholarships: arts and humanities, engineering and technologies, life science and medicine, natural sciences, social sciences, and management.
- The Ministry of Education prioritized institutional partnerships between U.S. and UAE universities and support for college preparation programs to develop academic skills for high school students. STEM education remains the main focal point, however areas such as humanities, arts, and social enterprises are also a focus.
- The UAE Ministry of Education supports the development of programs for counselors and English language teachers to equip them with the necessary knowledge and skills to better support their students.
- The National Strategy for Higher Education 2030 is based on developing an innovative educational system. It aims to provide future generations with the technical and practical skills to drive the economy in public and private sectors and to develop the UAE's labor market.





United Arab Emirates





- Pre-high School (# of years): 9
- High School (# of years): 3
- Academic Year Calendar: August-June, exam period (November, March, June)
- Recommended Times for U.S. Institution Visits: September, November, February, March, and the end of May. As
 of January 1, 2022, the official UAE workweek is Monday-Friday, and Friday is a half-day for students. Take into
 consideration school breaks and holiday schedule as follows:
 - Spring Break (March 27, 2022–April 14, 2022)
 - o Ramadan (April 1-30, 2022)
 - o Eid al-Fitr (May 1–3, 2022)
 - o Eid al-Adha (July 9–13, 2022)
 - o Start of the Academic Calendar (August 28, 2022)
 - o Prophet Mohammed's Birthday (October 8, 2022)
 - Martyrs' Day (November 31, 2022)
 - UAE National Day (December 2, 2022)
 - o Winter Break (December 11, 2022-January 1, 2023)

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of Instruction: Arabic in public schools and English in private schools
- Years of Mandatory English Courses: 12 years, 3 years in high school
- Grading System:
 - o 90 100% = A
 - o 80 89% = B
 - o 70 79% = C
 - o 60 69% = D
 - 59% and below = F
- Name of School-Leaving Exams: Shahadat Al-Thanawiya Al-Amma (Secondary School Leaving Certificate). The
 Emirates SAT (EmSAT) is a new aptitude test required for college admission and placement. The EmSAT is a national
 system of standardized computer-based tests, based on United Arab Emirates national standards. It measures grade
 12 students' skills and knowledge as they complete their general education and move to higher education. The EmSAT
 is also compulsory for students seeking government scholarships to study abroad.
- Graduation Requirements: Dependent on the field of study; the average number of required courses is 10.
- Subjects Required: Literary and scientific tracks at the high school level require different subjects.
- **Top Fields of Study/Majors:** Innovation, space science, engineering (artificial intelligence, nuclear, chemical, petroleum), alternative and renewable energy, business, information technology (including cyber security).
- How to Verify School-Leaving Exams: Ministry of Education
- **Military Service**: National service is mandatory for male students and is optional for female students. Male students have the option of deferring service once accepted at a university.
- COVID-19 Updates: Government and private schools and universities in the UAE are open in the academic year 2020-2021 with in-person, hybrid, or virtual classes. All end-of-year exams will be administered in person as per UAE Ministry of Education guidelines.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country and adviser recommendations: Test Availability in UAE: TOEFL, IELTS, SAT, ACT.
- Standardized Test Mean Scores: TOEFL iBT: 83 (Reading: 20, Listening: 22, Speaking: 20, Writing: 21, Total: 83)

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 4-6 years, foundation year sometimes required.
- Language of Instruction in Universities: English, Arabic
- Years of Required English Instruction in Universities: 4-6 years





United Arab Emirates





Grading System:

- o Excellent (5) A
- o Very good (4) A
- o Good(3)-B
- o Satisfactory (2) C
- o Unsatisfactory (1) F
- o Below 50 failing F
- **Degrees Offered:** Bachelor's, master's, doctorate
- **Top Fields of Study/Majors:** Innovation, space science, alternative & renewable energy, engineering (nuclear, chemical, petroleum), business, Information technology (including cyber security)
- Standardized Test Availability in UAE: GRE, GMAT
- Standardized Test Mean Scores: TOEFL iBT: 83 (Reading: 20, Listening: 22, Speaking: 20, Writing: 21, Total: 83)
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores: GRE: V 140.2, Q 147.8, W 2.7
- Study Abroad: The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that the global flow of tertiary-level students from the UAE goes to United Kingdom (5,341), United States (2,713), India (1,347), Australia (945) and Malaysia (771).

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Ministry of Education - Higher Education Affairs

Website: https://www.moe.gov.ae/En/Pages/Home.aspx

Embassy of the United Arab Emirates

Cultural Division

3522 International Court, NW, Suite 202

Washington, DC 20008

Website: http://www.uaecd.org/university-search

• U.S. Department of Commerce Country Guide on UAE

Website: https://www.trade.gov/country-commercial-guides/united-arab-emirates-education

The Abu Dhabi Department of Education and Knowledge (ADEK)

Website: https://www.adek.abudhabi.ae/en/pages/default.aspx

Knowledge and Human Development Authority (KHDA)

Website: www.khda.gov.ae

NAJAH Education & Training Exhibition (October 2020)

NAJAH 2020 includes full-year engagement with U.S. HEIs and UAE Advisers

Website: http://najahonline.com

Expo2020 Dubai UAE (October 1- March 31, 2022)

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/expo2020

Website: https://usapavilion.org/

Website: https://www.expo2020dubai.com/en/

EducationUSA UAE is based out of the U.S. Embassy Abu Dhabi; and the U.S. Consulate General, Dubai.





United Arab Emirates



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Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-embassy-abu-dhabi

Email: educationusaAD@state.gov

EducationUSA Dubai

U.S. Consulate General Corner of Al Seed Road & Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Road Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Telephone: +971-4-309-4142

Website: https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/us-consulate-general-dubai

Email: educationusadubai@state.gov



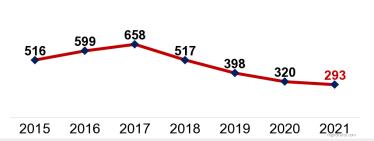


Yemen



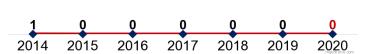






Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

U.S. Study Abroad Students in Yemen



Source: 2021 Open Doors Report (published by IIE, funded by the U.S. Department of State)

Students in U.S. by Academic Level	%	Number	% Change (2020 to 2021)
Undergraduate	41.6%	122	-32.6%
Graduate	38.2%	112	62.3%
Non-Degree	7.2%	21	-41.7%
OPT	13%	38	11.8%

Students in U.S. by U.S. Institution Type	%
Associate's (Two-Year) Colleges	10.31%
Baccalaureate (Four-Year) Colleges	1.53%
Master's Colleges and Universities	12.60%
Doctorate-Granting Universities	72.90%
Special Focus Institutions	2.67%
Public Institutions	80.15%
Private Institutions	19.85%

Change in Students Studying in the U.S. from 2020 to 2021 -8.44%

Change in U.S. Study Abroad Students from 2019 to 2020 0%

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Total Population

30,399,243

Population Aged 15-24

21.26%

Source: The World Fact Book

Top Five Receiving States

California New York Arizona Colorado Florida/Michigan/Texas

Source: 2021 Open Doors

Change in Student Visas Issued from 2019 to 2020

F -51.39% J -64.29% M -25%

*Based on fiscal year Oct. 1 – Sept. 30
Source: travel.state.gov

- Several challenges to student mobility for Yemenis include the ongoing conflict, economic difficulties, and the need to travel outside of Yemen for a U.S. embassy or consulate.
- The deteriorating economic situation has significantly affected the education sector. The government implemented a shorter academic year, and cannot pay teacher salaries, creating a shortage of teachers.
- Conflict and poverty are major factors in the marked increase in secondary-school-age dropouts.
 Disruptions to a student's learning include the need to help support the family, inaccessible or closed schools, or lack of available teachers in a particular area.



Yemen





- Pre-high school (# of years): 9 years
- High school (# of years): 3 years
- Academic year calendar: September-March (schools) and September-April (universities)
- Major Holidays: Eid Al-Fitr (May 2-6), Eid Al-Adha (July 8 13), Hijri New Year (July 29), 1962 Revolution Day (September 26), 1963 Revolution Day (October 14), and Independence Day (November 30)

Secondary Education (high school)

- Language of instruction: Arabic in public schools. English/Arabic sections in many private schools.
- Years of mandatory English courses: 6 years
- Grading system and interpretation: Out of 100%. Passing grades begin at 50%.

<u>Scale</u>	Grade Description	<u>U.S. Grade</u>
90 – 100	Excellent	Α
80 - 89	Very Good	В
65 – 79	Good	С
50 – 64	Pass	D
0 - 49	Fail	F

- **Subjects required:** Holy Quran, Islamic studies, English, Arabic, physics, chemistry, biology, civic studies, history, geography, and mathematics.
- Graduation requirements: Passing school exit exams: Thanwyah Al-Aama at 50%.
- Name of school leaving exams: Al-Marhala Al-Asasiya (after grade 9), Al-Thanawya Al-Ammah (after grade 12)
- How to verify school leaving exams or diploma/certificate/degree: Yemeni Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Yemeni Ministry of Education.
- Other credentials: IGCSE (International General Certificate of Secondary Education); American Diploma.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions testing availability in-country: TOEFL iBT, SAT.
- Standardized undergraduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2021): TOEFL: Reading: 17, Listening: 20, Speaking: 21, Writing: 119, Total: 78.

Structure of University System

- Years of study required to earn a bachelor's degree: 4 years; 5 years for Engineering and Dentistry; 7 for Medicine.
- Language of instruction in universities: Arabic or English.
- Years of required English instruction in universities: Varies.
- Grading system and interpretation: Varies by institution, using the same scale as secondary education.
- **Degrees offered:** Diploma, bachelor's, master's, doctorate.
- Top fields of study/majors: Business, medicine, computer science.
- Standardized graduate admissions testing availability: GRE, GMAT.
- Standardized graduate admissions test mean scores (as of 2021): GMAT: Not available.
- **Study Abroad:** The UNESCO Institute for Statistics reports that, internationally, the largest numbers of tertiary-level students from Yemen go to Saudi Arabia (19,032), Malaysia (5,680), Turkey (3,076), and India (1,437). The United States ranks ninth. http://uis.unesco.org/en/uis-student-flow

Educational Authorities and International Education Resources

Ministry of Education www.yemenmoe.net

Ministry of Higher Education www.yemen.gov.ye/portal/mohe

AMIDEAST Yemen

EducationUSA Yemen

http://www.amideast.org/yemen

https://educationusa.state.gov/centers/amideast-aden Yemen@educationusa.org





